

## REMARKS

Claims 1-18 remain pending in this application, claims 1, 2, and 8 of which stand rejected, and claims 3-7 and 9-18 of which have been allowed. Based on the foregoing amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

### Claim Amendments

As a preliminary matter, Applicant emphasizes that the claims have been amended to provide more consistency between claim language and to generally make the claims more readable. With the exception of claims 1 and 8, no claims have been amended to overcome any current or subsequently anticipated rejection based on prior art or otherwise.

### Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 2, and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,090,149 issued to Nair et al. ("Nair"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, since Nair does not disclose each and every element required by these claims, as amended.

In particular, independent claim 1 has been amended to require the processor(s) to dynamically determine whether to apply an output or no output from the analog circuit to the node according to the digital circuit output state. Similarly, independent claim 8 has been amended to require the interface simulation to comprise applying an output signal from the analog circuit to the node when the digital circuit presents a high impedance output, and applying no output signal from the analog circuit to the node when the digital circuit presents when the digital circuit presents a digital signal to the node.

In contrast, the analog circuit disclosed in Nair does not have a state in which it supplies no output to the node. That is, to the extent that the analog circuit of Nair does present an output signal to the node, such output signal is always applied regardless of whether the digital circuit applies a digital signal or high impedance signal to the node.

Thus, Applicant submits that claims 1, 2, and 8 are not anticipated by Nair, and as such, respectfully request withdrawal of the §102 rejections of these claims.

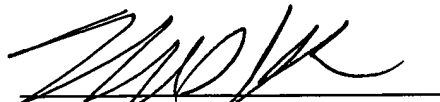
Allowed Claims

Applicant graciously acknowledges the allowance of claims 3-7 and 9-18.

Conclusion

Based on the foregoing, it is believed that, with entry of this amendment, all claims are now allowable and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding this amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (714) 830-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael J. Bolan  
Reg. No. 42,339

Dated: December 12, 2005

Bingham McCutchen LLP  
Three Embarcadero Center, 18th Floor  
San Francisco, California 94111  
Customer No. 23639